NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending September 2, 1990

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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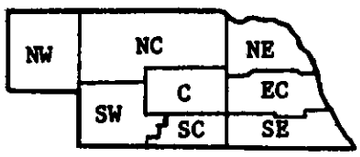
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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WEATHER

Light precipitation occurred the latter part of the week with amounts ranging from none in the northwest up to a half inch in the northeast. Temperatures averaged from six degrees above normal in the northwest up to twelve degrees above normal in the east central.

GENERAL

Hot, humid weather helped row crops to push rapidly toward maturity, but caused more stress to dryland crops, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Hot weather was needed to speed up crop development, but the recent lack of rain has hurt dryland crops and pastures around the State. Corn was beginning to or had fired over much of the southern half of the State and soybeans were wilting in the Southeast. In the Southwest, producers began cutting drought-damaged corn and sorghum for silage. Many operators who thought they had finished for the year began to irrigate again for at least one more time to help finish the crops. There was concern about the rapid pace which crops were maturing, including irrigated crops, that it could reduce yields and test weights. Grasshoppers were reported in large numbers across the southern half of the State. In the West and Southwest, the dry edible bean harvest was underway and should gain speed this week. A very large hail storm in the Northeast wiped out many fields; lesser damaged fields were then stressed by the heat. An average of 6.9 days were suitable for fieldwork.

Topsoil moisture was 74% short, 25% adequate, and 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 61% short and 39% adequate. Last year, topsoil moisture was 46% short, 52% adequate, and 2% surplus, while subsoil moisture was 98% short and 2% adequate.

CROPS

All corn condition rated 2% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, and 14% excellent. Dryland corn rating good or better declined to 51% and irrigated dropped slightly to 89%. Corn in the dough stage reached 96% compared with 95% last year and 97% average. Corn

CROPS (Cont.)

acreage denting advanced to 55% compared with 66% in 1989 and 71% average. The crop was beginning to mature in several areas averaging 1% of the State's acreage. Many cattle feeders began cutting silage and others were preparing to cut. Some drought-damaged corn was cut for silage in the Southwest, some will not be fit for silage. Corn borers and spider mites were still active in the central part of the State.

Sorghum condition rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 61% good, and 3% excellent. Virtually all of the crop was headed and 35% of the acreage was turning color compared with 54% last year and 61% average. The crop was just starting to mature in a few areas. Green bugs were still a problem in the Southeast.

Soybean condition rated 4% very poor, 4% poor, 33% fair, 55% good, and 4% excellent. Soybean acreage turning color reached 20% compared with 25% last year and 29% average; 4% was dropping leaves compared with 8% in 1989 and 7% average.

Sowing of the winter wheat crop began last week, mostly in the Panhandle but also a few fields in the East and Southeast. Only 1% was sown compared with 4% last year and 5% average. The extreme heat has baked some fields, previously too wet to work, making them difficult to prepare for planting. Moisture will be needed before planting will really begin.

Alfalfa hay condition was 1% very poor, 14% poor, 39% fair, 41% good, and 5% excellent. The third cutting was 85% complete compared with 79% last year and average.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was 3% very poor, 16% poor, 56% fair, 22% good, and 3% excellent. The hot, dry weather has been hard on pastures, especially the cool season grasses. Very little cattle movement was reported; however, some selling was reported in the Southwest and North due to drought conditions. The heat and high humidity stressed livestock in the eastern half of the State, causing reduced weight gains. Flies were a problem in the West.

Precipitation, April 1 - August 31, 1990

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.00	.01	.01	.05	.11	.00	.00	.11
Total since April 1	9.84	13.83	18.50	14.04	18.87	10.59	16.22	18.11
Normal since April 1	11.91	14.60	16.86	15.78	18.00	13.32	15.96	18.79
Total as % of Normal	83%	95%	110%	89%	105%	80%	102%	96%

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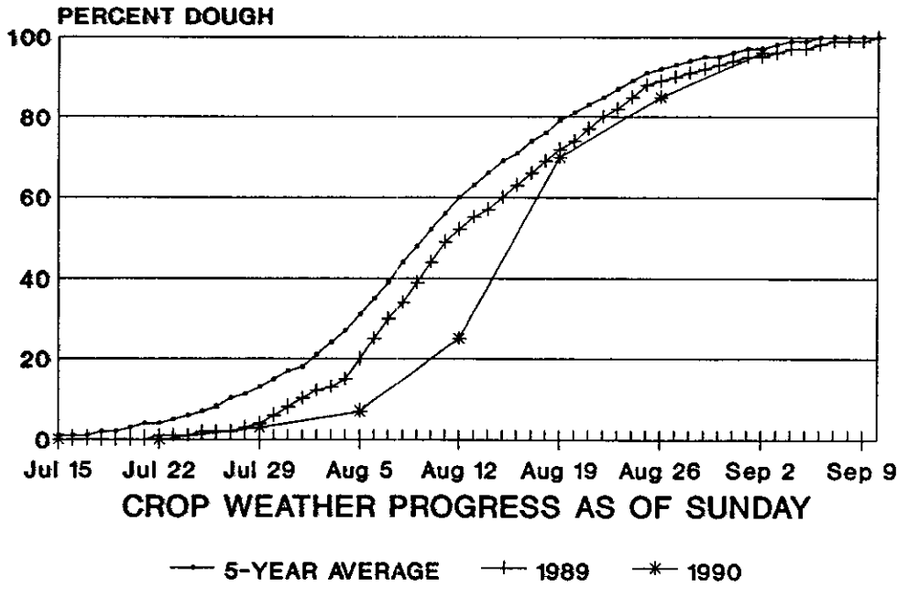
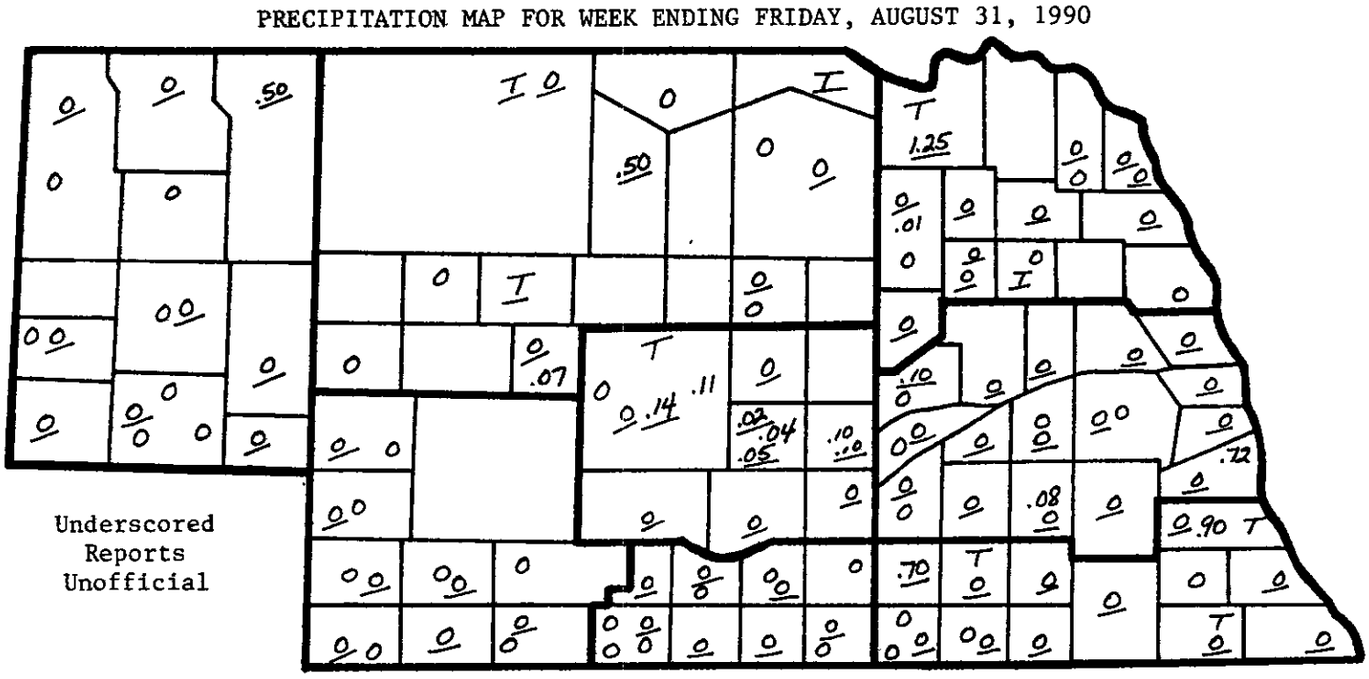
NEBRASKA--CORN IN DOUGH



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1990



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1990

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	105	50	76	---	0
	Scottsbluff	102	50	74	+6	.11
	Sidney	---	---	---	---	---
NC	Ord	104	57	78	---	0
	Valentine	100	53	77	+9	.01
NE	Norfolk	96	60	78	+9	.54
	Sioux City	92	62	79	+9	.30
CEN	Grand Island	102	61	80	+9	.08
EC	Lincoln	102	65	83	+11	.01
	Omaha	100	65	82	+12	.14
SW	Imperial	104	53	79	---	.05
	North Platte	104	53	79	+11	.01

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.